

## TOPIC: CURRENT EVENTS

### Lesson 1: BLACK FRIDAY

Class level: Advanced

Duration: 2 hours

#### Objectives:

1. Students will be able to understand words associated with Black Friday
2. Students will be able to differentiate Black Friday from Black Thursday
3. Students will be able to talk about a unique American event
4. Students will be able to give their opinion on a topic of general interest
5. Students will be able to identify collocations and compound nouns

#### Materials:

1. Blackboard/chalk
2. Power-point
3. Internet access/computer/speakers
4. Handouts:
  - #1 – Fill in the chart with collocations and compound nouns
  - #2 – Fill in the blanks exercise
  - #3 – Vocabulary
  - #4 – Put the text into order
  - #5 – Reading text (handout #4 text ordered)
  - #6 – The importance of Black Friday for the American economy writing sheet

#### Detailed procedure:

- I. Introduction to topic (15 minutes)
  1. Students receive handout #1 and fill in the chart with collocations and compound nouns (the teacher has provided some examples on the handout)
  2. Students are put into pairs to compare their answers and discuss their choices.
  3. Some pairs give their answers and the other students (or the teacher, ultimately) accept or provide correction to the words proposed.

4. With a slide, the teacher displays the collocations and compound words he came up with.
5. Students read and define the words provided by the teacher on the slide
6. The teacher provides feedback and briefly explains Black Thursday

II. Pre-reading activity: (30 minutes)

1. Students receive handout #2 and fill in the blanks to understand the historical background of Black Friday.
2. Students are put into pairs to compare and correct their answers.
3. 4 students read the text (each of them reads a part of the text)
4. The teacher uses PPT to gloss some words of the upcoming text: *to cart/hangover/cutback/layoff/squabble/throng/ dash/brisk /mindset/to kickstart*
5. Students receive handout # 3 with the words glossed and their definition
6. Students are paired and receive handout # 4 to put the scrambled reading text into order
7. The teachers collect the scrambled text after the students have successfully put them into sequential order
8. Students receive handout # 5 (ordered text) with blanks that can only be filled with the words glossed at stage 4

III. While reading: (10 minutes)

1. Students silently read the text and fill in the blanks with the appropriate words

IV. Post-reading: (35 minutes)

1. Students are put into groups to compare their answers
2. 10 of the students read their answers (one student, one sentence)
3. Students summarize orally the text they have just read
4. The teacher asks the students who went shopping on Black Friday (first Black Friday or not) to share their experience focusing on where they shopped, what they bought, and why they think they have made good deals
5. Students receive handout # 6 and write a short passage on what they believe is the importance of Black Friday for the American economy.
6. Students get into groups and exchange their papers for peer revision
7. Students correct their paragraph taking into account their partner's remarks

8. 3 students read their paragraphs
- V. Listening activity (25 minutes)
1. Students watch a video with the instruction to focus on dates and figures for the upcoming discussion  
<http://cosmos.bcst.yahoo.com/up/player/popup/?rn=3906861&cl=16869365&ch=4226720&src=news>
  2. Based on what they just watched, students reconsider their assertions about the impact of Black Friday on the economy by discussing it with the teacher.

END OF THE CLASS

